

REMARKS

This Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Official Action mailed March 30, 2006. In order to advance prosecution of this Application, Claims 15-24 and 26 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and favorable action in this Application.

Applicant notes with appreciation the comments provided by the Examiner concerning the election/restriction requirement imposed on the claims. Though Applicant is not in agreement with the reasoning set forth by the Examiner, non-elected Claims 15-24 and 26 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer for further prosecution in a divisional application in order to have allowed Claims 1-14 and 25 proceed to issuance.

Claims 1-14 and 25 stand provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claims 1-13 of copending U.S. Application Serial No. 10/816,390. Though Applicant does not necessarily agree that the claimed inventions are not patentably distinct, attached herewith is a Terminal Disclaimer to overcome this rejection and place this Application into condition for allowance. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to issue a Notice of Allowance in this Application.

CONCLUSION

Applicant has made an earnest attempt to place this case in condition for allowance. For at least the foregoing reasons and other reasons clearly apparent, Applicant respectfully requests full allowance of all pending claims.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayments associated with this Application to Deposit Account No. 02-0384 of Baker Botts L.L.P.

Respectfully submitted,

BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.

Attorneys for Applicant

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Charles S. Fish', is written over the printed name.

Charles S. Fish

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